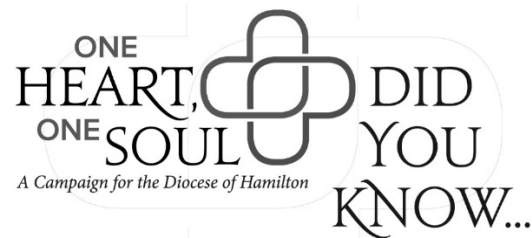


**MASS INTENTIONS
December 11 - 16, 2018**

Tuesday, 11th	- Advent Weekday
9:00 am	+Craig Darby – Anne Darby-Watchorn
Wednesday, 12th	- Our Lady of Guadalupe
9:00 am	Intentions of Maria Cabral
7:00 pm	Intentions of Barbara Diemert – Ann Kip
	+Lorne MacDonald – Dorothy MacDonald
	+Vernon Dorscht – Anne Darby-Watchorn
	+Ann Hutter – Eleanor Buchanan
	+Ian Houston – Jerry & Joanne White
Thursday, 13th	- St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr
9:00 am	+Marcella Eby – Ron Eby & Family
Friday, 14th	- St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church
9:00 am	Intentions of Mary Higginson – Anne Pritchard
Saturday, 15th	- 3rd Sunday of Advent
5:00 pm	Intentions of Maria Cabral – Lucille & Cathy Vanzielegem
	Intentions of Deacon Raphael Ma, CR – Cathy Vanzielegem
	Intentions of Donna Renaud – Eileen & Mary Longo
	+Deceased Members of the Longo & O’Grady Families – Eileen & Mary Longo
	+Oscar Lorentz – Rose Lorentz
	+Ed Yendruck – Mike & Marg George
	+Perla Solis Guerra – Herminia Hergott
Sunday, 16th	- 3rd Sunday of Advent
9:00 am	+Don Cameron – Max & Jane Rausch & Family
11:00 am	Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi



The Diocese of Hamilton is conducting the *One Heart, One Soul Campaign* to raise money for every Parish in the Diocese and for shared ministries. Answers to a set of Frequently Asked Questions appear in Parish bulletins regularly. A compilation of all questions that have been published are available throughout the campaign at oneheartonesoul.ca.

What kinds of things does the Diocese do for Parishes and others already?

The good work of the Diocese of Hamilton is widespread. Here are a few examples of the ways diocesan offices enhance the life of our Parishes and people:

- Advocating for the dignity of all life and supporting and promoting marriage and family life.
- Encouraging vocational discernment to priesthood and religious life.
- Programming and support for youth and young adult ministry.
- Adult faith formation, catechesis, religious education and sacramental preparation.
- Assistance in the relocation and resettlement of refugees.
- Advocacy on behalf of the poor and marginalized.
- Assistance for Parishes in all aspects of sacred worship, including formation for liturgical ministers.
- Support for Parishes in the areas of human resources, building maintenance, financial reporting, stewardship, charitable giving and Parish development.

Does the Diocese help organizations outside of it?

Yes, the Diocese is generous to many in need. For example, the Diocese has an ongoing financial commitment to help the Archdiocese of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, which is still suffering from the effects of the devastating earthquake there in 2010, and the Diocese of Churchill-Hudson Bay, which includes northern Manitoba and the territory of Nunavut. The Diocese also supports many worthy causes within and outside of the Diocese, such as: organizations who support the poor and marginalized, like St. Vincent de Paul, the Good Shepherd and several others; health care initiatives, including hospice care and conscience protection for those in the medical field; community organizations such as the Catholic Youth Organization, Catholic Family Services and Catholic Children’s Aid; and several other organizations and causes in need who do the work of the gospel. Additionally, the Diocese is proud to have made a significant gift to St. Peter’s Seminary in London, helping to ensure the seminary can continue its mission to form priests for our Diocese and the Church in Canada.

Why a significant gift to a seminary in another Diocese?

There is a longstanding and fruitful connection between St. Peter’s Seminary in London and the Diocese of Hamilton. For more than a hundred years, St. Peter’s has trained a majority of our diocesan Priests – and those of so many Canadian dioceses. Of the current Hamilton seminarians, the majority are at St. Peter’s, which is one of only three English-speaking seminaries in Canada. Hamilton Priests have also served on the seminary’s staff. The seminary is in need – these funds were required for St. Peter’s to continue its mission of forming Priests, deacons and lay ministers – and its vitality is important to the long-term outlook for vocations in Hamilton.

December 9, 2018

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Collection December 1/2	\$6,557.65
2018 Collection to Date	\$271,526.88
2018 Total Budgeted Collection	\$366,600.00

Looking Ahead to Dec. 16, 2018

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Zephaniah 3: 14 – 18a
Philippians 4: 4-7 Luke 3: 10-18

DIOCESAN PRAYER CALENDAR

Mon. Dec. 10:	Rev. Lech Wycichowski, CR
Tues. Dec. 11:	Rev. Stanley Zaryczny, CR
Wed Dec. 12:	Carmelites of Mary Immaculate
Thu. Dec. 13:	Rev. Brendan McGrath
Fri. Dec. 14:	Rev. Miro Grubisic, OFM
Sat. Dec. 15:	Rev. David Perrin

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE PARISH

Monday	Parents for Community Living (H)	7:00 pm
	Celebrating the Word (RR)	7:30 pm
	Overeaters Anonymous (AR)	7:30 pm
Tuesday	Christmas Hamper Setup (H)	1:00 pm
Wednesday	Christmas Hampers (H)	2 – 6 pm
Thursday	Catechesis of Good Shepherd (AR)	9:00 am
	Catechesis of Good Shepherd (AR)	4:30 pm
	Choir Practice (C)	7:30 pm
Friday	Advent Songs with John Miller (C)	7:00 pm
Saturday	Special Confession Times	1 – 3 pm
Saturday/Sunday	Christmas Food Drive	At All Masses

From the Pastor's Desk:

Next Sunday we will celebrate the Third Sunday in the Season of Advent, the Sunday traditionally referred to as **Gaudete** Sunday. Why? For each celebration of the Sunday Eucharist you will find in the Roman Missal (the ritual book the priest uses during Mass) a suggested entrance antiphon, a short one or two sentence statement intended to set the theme, or give a title, for the particular Mass being celebrated. In days of old the antiphon was recited or sung by the congregation at the beginning of Mass, in our country this has been replaced with a gathering hymn. In the antiphon for next Sunday it begins with the words found in Paul's letter to the Philippians **"Rejoice in the Lord always"**. In Latin the word "rejoice" is **"gaudete"** (gow-da-tay), thus today is called Gaudete Sunday.

For what are we to rejoice in on the Third Sunday of Advent? The first reading for Mass, from the Prophet Isaiah, reveals the answer to this question. Isaiah tells us that the Messianic era which is to come, which has been promised from of old, will be an era of healing. In this era the blind will see, the deaf will hear, and the lame shall leap for joy! For this we are called to rejoice.

It is fitting on the Third Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of rejoicing, to participate in the ancient custom of blessing the figurines of the baby Jesus from people's home nativity scenes. You are invited to bring the baby Jesus from your nativity scene to church next Sunday. It will be blessed. Then you are invited to take it home, wrap it in Christmas paper and place it under your tree. This would then be the first gift you open on Christmas day – you would then place the baby Jesus in your nativity scene.

~ Father Tim, CR

CHURCH ENVELOPES 2019

Church envelopes for 2019 are available for pickup now in the parish hall. If you use **Direct Deposit** please note you still have a small box of special envelopes to pick up. If you wish to sign up for Direct Deposit please call Alice in the parish office for details. Direct Deposit helps us be good stewards of creation by decreasing the amount of envelopes used.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

During this Advent period of spiritual preparation we are providing more opportunities to receive Reconciliation. Fr. Tim will be available to hear confessions on:

- Sat. Dec. 15 from 1pm – 3pm
- Sat. Dec. 22 from 2pm – 4pm

(Regular confession times of 4-4:30pm are cancelled these days.) If you wish to attend a Penance Service there are many in the area, please see the insert from last week or our website for a listing of services.

SONGS OF ADVENT & THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Join us for an evening of traditional and contemporary seasonal music on Fri. Dec. 14 at 7pm in the church. Led by John B. Miller and Friends, a group of professional musicians featuring Andrea Weber Steckly, Steve Martin, Donna McLellan and Joe Orlando. This will be a fun and prayerful event, a great break from the bustle of Christmas preparations. A free-will offering will be taken to cover expenses.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you wish to donate towards our Christmas flowers and decorations in memory of a loved one, please use the envelope in your box. We will pray collectively for our deceased loved ones at all the Christmas Masses.

BAMBINI JESU

For the past several years, the Pope has blessed the Baby Jesus figurines from Nativity Scenes that belong to families, and the families themselves, in St. Peter's Square in Rome. The blessing takes place on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, and is known as Bambinelli Sunday. The blessing of the Bambini Jesu reminds us that the Nativity scene is a school of life where we can learn the secrets of true joy. **All are invited to bring your Baby Jesus figurines** from your homes to Mass next weekend to be blessed as we too celebrate our own Bambinelli Sunday. After the blessing please take your Bambini Jesu home and place it in a gift box, wrap the box and save it for Christmas. Let this be the first gift you open on Christmas day - as you lay Jesus in the manger, allow this moment to be a reminder of the great blessings we receive at Christmas.

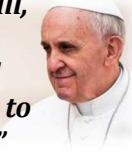
LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

If you are grieving, lonely or sad for any reason as the Christmas season approaches and the day get darker, we invite you to join us for an ecumenical service on Fri. Dec. 21, the longest night of the year. This will be an evening of scripture, reflective music and prayer in solidarity with one another. The service will begin at 7pm and a time of fellowship will follow in the hall. No one should be alone at this time of year, so please come and spend some time with us. Everyone is welcome.



"This Advent, make yourself small, make yourself humble, make yourself a servant of others, and the Lord will give you the ability to understand how to make peace."

~ @Pontifex, December 4, 2018



SINCERE THANK YOU

Nov. 17/18 we celebrated the World Day of the Poor by highlighting the work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in our community and in the world. We had a special food drive that weekend, and with your generosity we collected 569 lbs of food. Together we can "build a world where the poor are strangers to none, and indeed, the very chains of poverty are broken."

WARMTH and COMFORT CAMPAIGN

This is your last chance to donate a pair of warm socks for the men at House of Friendship. If you still want to contribute please bring your donations to the parish office by Dec. 13 so the CWL can give them to the House of Friendship this Friday. Thank you for your amazing generosity!



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Our St. Vincent de Paul Conference will be packing and distributing Christmas Hampers to our neighbours in need this week. These gifts help make sure everyone has a warm and festive meal to brighten their Christmas. Next weekend we will have our Christmas Food Drive to restock the pantry so we can continue to support families in need beyond the Christmas season. We are especially in need of cereal, peanut butter and canned fruit. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve (Dec. 24)

- 4:30 pm
- 7:00 pm
- 10:00 pm

Christmas Day (Dec. 25)

- 10:00 am



AROUND TOWN

Sisters of the Carmel of St. Joseph will pray for you during the Novena to Infant Jesus, Dec. 16 – 25. Are you troubled? Do you need spiritual support? Send your prayer intention with your name and address to Carmel of St. Joseph 1127 Carmel-Koch Rd. R.R.#1 St. Agatha, ON NOB 2L0.

40th Annual Advent Novena Nine daily Masses at 6:30am, St. Agnes Church, Waterloo Fri. Dec. 7 – Sat. Dec. 15. Breakfast in the parish centre following Mass on Dec. 15, free will offering will be taken for St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers. Coffee and fellowship follow each Mass, bring a friend! Lots of time to get to work afterwards.

THE BIGGEST CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS CHRISTMAS PARTY EVER, #3!!! If you are Catholic, between the ages of 19-39, and single, couple or married, this will be the place to BE to meet other Young Adult Catholics. Sat. Dec. 15, 5:00 Mass; 6:00 Cocktail Social; 6:45 – CATERED 3-course Dinner. Followed by Live Entertainment, Activities, DJ Dance, Cash Bar, and so much more! Asking a suggested \$25 per person. Menu is still being finalized but it will be surf n'turf! St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Waterdown. Please RSVP before Dec. 12. Contact: Justin Peter at 905 689 4857 ext. 8 or jpeter@hamiltondiocese.com. Please include dietary requirements

Healing After an Abortion: It Is Possible
At Project Rachel we offer a confidential service allowing people to work through their feelings and find hope and healing. Contact us at 905-526-1999 or 1-888-385-3850.

Be Born in us Today is the theme for an advent retreat for seniors taking place in at the Chancery Office, Hamilton on Thurs. Dec. 13 from 1:30-3pm. Join us for an afternoon of prayer, reflection and song to nourish our advent journey in preparation for Christmas, using David Haas' beautiful book of reflections and facilitated by David Dayler, Anne Jamieson and Sandra Gould. Cost is \$5 and includes a copy of the book. Please register by calling 905-528-7988 ext 2238 or email mverin@hamiltondiocese.com

Seeking the Sacred: The Soul's Slow Ripening A Senior Adult Workshop Series taking place on 7 Tuesday afternoons, starting Jan. 29, from 1:30-3:30pm at the Chancery Office in Hamilton. This series will explore twelve unique Celtic-Christian spiritual practices. These 12 practices are intended to give practical ways for us to deepen our relationship with God and all of creation. The course will be facilitated by Sr. Mary Heather MacKinnon, SSND. Cost is \$35 which includes the text. Please register by Jan. 25. For more information please call 905-528-7988 ext 2238 or check the website:

www.hamiltondiocese.com

Friday Night Support Group for Persons Separated or Divorced meets the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month and they can help! No need to register, just come and join us at the Chancery Office, Hamilton from 7-9m. For more information call the Family Ministry Office at 905-528-7988 ext 2249. No cost.

Diocesan Newsletter For information about activities and events of interest in the Diocese of Hamilton, subscribe to the online Diocesan Newsletter at www.hamiltondiocese.com.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish



49 Blueridge Ave., Kitchener, Ontario N2M 4E2
519-745-7301 www.stfranciskw.ca
stfranciskitchener@hamiltondiocese.com

Administered by the Congregation of the Resurrection: www.resurrectionists.ca

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:00 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:00 – 4:30 pm
or by appointment

Sunday Children's Liturgy

Sunday 9:00 am Mass

Prayer Network

Call parish office to request prayers

Communal Baptism

Monthly, please call the parish office to register.

Marriages

Congratulations! Please contact the parish one year before wedding date.

Pastor:	Fr. Tim Uniac, C.R. (tuniac@hamiltondiocese.com)
Pastoral Minister:	Miss Ruthann Fisher (rfisher@hamiltondiocese.com)
Music Ministry:	Mrs. Terriane Moulton
Admin. Assistant:	Ms. Alice Soeder
Building Manager:	Mr. Gary Howell
Seminarian:	Rev. Mr. Raphael Ma, C.R.

**Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 12 noon
1:00 pm to 4:30 pm**

Vocations Information: www.vocationinfo.ca
www.vocationculture.ca



"We are a Christ-centred faith community seeking to be instruments of God's peace."

*"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all flesh shall see the salvation of God." Luke 3: 4, 6*



**2nd SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

December 9, 2018

